

Message Text

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13

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

DOTE-00 COME-00 TRSE-00 /027 W

----- 033760

R 072211Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1847

UNCLAS OTTAWA 4832

PASS AGRICULTURE FOR NOVOTNY

PASS DOT FOR TPI-40 (BRONEZ) AND SLSDC (OBERLIN)

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, EAGR, CA

SUBJ: GRAIN TRANSPORTATION COST REPORT TABLED

REF: A-278, APRIL 16, 1976, P.6.

1. THE SNAVELY COMMISSION REPORT ON THE COSTS OF
TRANSPORTING GRAIN BY RAIL WAS TABLED IN THE HOUSE OF
COMMONS DEC 6 BY OTTO LANG, MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
AND MINISTER RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD.

2. THE COMMISSION, HEADED BY WASHINGTON, D.C. ECONOMIST,
CARL SNAVELY, WAS APPOINTED BY MR. LANG IN APRIL 1975 TO
OPERATE UNDER THE INQUIRIES ACT WITH THE POWER TO
CONDUCT HEARINGS AND ACCEPT WRITTEN AND ORAL EVIDENCE
CONCERNING QUESTIONS OF COSTS AND REVENUES RELATING TO
GRAIN MOVEMENT ON AND OFF THE PRAIRIES.

3. PRESS REPORTS TODAY QUOTE SNAVELY AS SAYING IN THE
REPORT THAT ALMOST ALL GROUPS PARTICIPATING IN HIS
INQUIRY CONCLUDED THAT THE RAILWAYS WERE LOSING MONEY
ON CARRYING PRAIRIE GRAIN. THIS LOSS WAS ESTIMATED BY
SNAVELY AT C\$89.3 MILLION IN 1974.

4. THIS REPORT IS BOUND TO RENEW DISCUSSION ABOUT
WHETHER THE CROWSNEST RATE OF ONE HALF CENT PER TON/
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MILE FOR EXPORT GRAIN SHOULD BE CHANGED.

5. THE FINDINGS OF THIS COMMISSION WILL BE INCORPORATED
INTO THE REPORT OF THE HALL COMMISSION ON GRAIN
HANDLING AND TRANSPORTATION WHICH WILL REPORT SHORTLY
ON INTER-ALIA, RAILWAY NETWORK PLANNING AND BRANCH
LINE ABANDONMENT.

6. AIRGRAM TO FOLLOW WITH FULL TEXT WHEN AVAILABLE.
ENDERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, FREIGHT RATES, RAIL TRANSPORTATION, GRAINS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OTTAWA04832
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760453-0055
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761266/aaaaceyt.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <06 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GRAIN TRANSPORTATION COST REPORT TABLED
TAGS: ELTN, EAGR, EPAP, CA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006